

Article 5: Governments should help parents to help you to know about and use children's rights as you grow up.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your support during this half term. It has been extremely busy with the start of examinations, trips, sporting events and other activities.

When the pupils return after half term on Monday 1st June, please ensure that they are in correct school uniform with grey base colours and appropriate school shoes.

We hope you all enjoy the sunshine during the half term break.

Key Dates

Date	Event
Monday 25 th May 2026	Half term
Monday 1 st June 2026	Year 7 & 8 exam week
Thursday 4 th June 2026	ACE day
Thursday 11 th June 2026	Year 11 leavers ceremony 1pm
Friday 12 th June 2026	Advance Yr 4, 5, 6 sports day
Monday 15 th June 2026	Japan Trip
Monday 22 nd June 2026	Story Arms Trip Year 5
Tuesday 23 rd June 2026	Year 11 Prom 7pm

Advanced notice of dates

Please find below a correction of an error identified on last week's newsletter.

Please note that the school will have three INSET days at the beginning of term
Monday 31st August 2026 Last day of the summer holiday

Tuesday 1st September INSET day (closed for pupils).

Wednesday 2nd September INSET day (closed for pupils).

Thursday 3rd September INSET day (closed for pupils).

Friday 4th September 2025 will be the first day of term for all pupils.





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Catering pupil voice

Pupils in Year 7 -11 have the opportunity to take part in a pupil voice survey by the catering team. Please click on the link below to take part:

[Your School Food, Your Voice Menu Feedback Survey \(English\)](#)

Deadline 31st May 2026

Your School Food, Your Voice Menu Feedback Survey (English)



School Uniform

Please ensure that all pupils are wearing school uniform. This includes an YAW school polo shirt, grey base skirt or tailored trousers, black shoes or the yellow gingham dress in Nursery to Year 6.



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Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh



The Year 9 Duke of Edinburgh expedition to the Gower was a great success, with pupils demonstrating excellent effort, resilience, and teamwork throughout. Despite the challenges of navigating and carrying equipment over long distances, students maintained a positive attitude and showed outstanding behaviour at all times. They supported one another well, embraced the experience enthusiastically, and should be proud of the maturity and determination they displayed over the course of the expedition.



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Hay Festival

Pupils in Year 6 had a truly exceptional day at Hay Festival. Celebrating their love of reading. Pupils had the opportunity to hear from well-known children's authors Katherine Rundell (Impossible Creatures series) and Maz Evans (Who let the gods out series)

Isaac – I loved Hay Fest, because I was able to buy a new book and even saw Maz Evans and Katherine Rundell. Maz Evans was so funny during her talk and we were able to get our books signed by her!

Layla – I enjoyed the Maz Evans talks. She was so funny! The bookshop was great and I even got my copy of Who Let the Gods Out signed. I also bought Impossible Creatures by Katherine Rundell who spoke as well.



Brody – Hay festival was such a fun trip. The Global Stage and the book shop were so impressive. We even got to meet some of the authors. Overall, a fantastic day!

Pako – I really enjoyed the book shop, because there were so many great books to buy. The talk with Maz Evans was so great and she told us all about her life and read some of her new book 'The Last Bard'.

Kacper – I really enjoyed the book shop and the authors' talks. I'm so happy as I was able to meet Maz Evans and she even signed my book. I totally recommend the trip to all next year!





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Celebration of Success

Congratulations to the following pupils who have been nominated for the celebration of success this week.

Nursery	Nova-Rae Weston-Jenkins & Millie Quinn	Year 4	JJ Moore & Isabella Connolly	Year 9	Boo Sorenson & Alex Multan
Reception	Jonah Mansfield & Mellina Driai	Year 5	Olwen Hooper & Zack Jaswal	Year 10	Gwen Owen & Jayden Hobbs
Year 1	Amira Benkhassib	Year 6	Jack Marchant & Alexys Rowsell	Year 11	Cian Phillips & Mikayla Davies
Year 2	Austin Loveridge & Lucas Granelli	Year 7	Lucas Dando & Daisy Morgan		
Year 3	Logan Powderhill & Malia Rees	Year 8	Ibrahim Karasuwa and Sophie Serpell		



Year 9/10 boys' rugby, win against Porth! Ending the year with a 100% record!



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Celebration of Attendance Success

Congratulations to the pupils who were entered into the attendance May bonanza and won a prize! These pupils were in school every day in May. We hope you enjoy spending your vouchers, going to the cinema and watching your new TV!




MAY BONANZA: EVERY CHILD, EVERY DAY

Your challenge: Attend school every day in May (May 1st – May 22nd, excluding Bank Holiday and weekends!)

If you succeed in this challenge, your name will be entered in to our May Attendance Grand Raffle!

Big prizes to be won:
Flat screen TVs
Cinema Tickets
Vouchers
+ many more!

YOU HAVE TO BE IN TO WIN!





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Celebration of Success



Year 7 taking part in after school cooking rewards 🧑‍🍳 🍰



Year 4 making wrap flowers 🌹

Year 7 pupils receiving their end of half term rewards.



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Year 10 Work Experience

Important reminder about Year 10 work experience (week beginning 29 June 2026).

Thank you to the families who have already secured placements — we really appreciate your support. All placements that have been submitted will be checked and formally confirmed by Rhondda Cynon Taf (RCT) after the half-term break. ***If no placement is secured, your son/daughter must attend school as normal during the week of work experience.***

Reminder of key dates:

- Final deadline for completed forms and employer liability insurance: Monday 1 June 2026 (extended from the date on the letter). Please make contact with the school if you have difficulty with meeting this deadline
- Work experience week: week beginning Monday 29 June 2026.

What you must do once a placement is secured:

- Parents/guardians: complete Section A of the Learner and Employer Details form.
- Employer: complete Section B of that form.
- Provide a current copy of the employer's valid **Employer Liability Insurance** that covers the placement week.
- If the placement is in a family member's business, also complete the Parent/Guardian Work Experience Agreement Form to confirm responsibility for safety and supervision.

How to return paperwork

- All completed forms and employer liability insurance documents must be returned to form tutors or reception by Monday 1 June 2026 so RCT can carry out their health & safety checks and confirm suitability.



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Year 11 Leavers Ceremony

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the examination period, we would like to share arrangements for the Year 11 Leavers' Day.

The Year 11 Leavers' Day will take place on **Thursday 11th June**. We are incredibly proud of the maturity, resilience and determination shown by this year group throughout their studies and during the examination period. The day will provide students with an opportunity to celebrate the end of this important chapter, say goodbye to staff and friends, and return any outstanding school property i.e. laptops and keyboards.

The day will run as follows:

- **11:00am** – Year 11 pupils arrive on site and enter via the Theatre
- **11:15am** – Year 11 Leavers' Assembly begins
- **12:00pm** – Ice cream van at the Community Hub, with opportunities for shirt signing and final goodbyes. To minimise movement around the school, staff and pupils will visit Year 11 at the Community Hub.
- **1:00pm** – Year 11 pupils escorted off site

The event will be supported by the Year 11 Pastoral Team and Senior Leadership Team.

Please note that pupils are expected to attend in full school uniform. However, they may bring a spare shirt for signing, as full uniform will still be required for all remaining examinations.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support throughout your child's time at school. We wish all Year 11 students every success in their remaining examinations and in their future pathways.

Cofion cynnes,

Miss M Jenkins



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Welsh National Tests

The Welsh National Tests for Year 2 to Year 9 will be between 2nd June and 28th June. The National **Reading** assessment will consist of a number of passages followed by short, closed response and multiple choice type questions. The National **Numeracy Procedural** assesses knowledge of numerical procedures such as the four number operations, equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages and work on area and volume. **Numeracy (Reasoning)** assessments provide information on how well your child can use and apply what they know in order to solve numerical problems. These assessments will take place in classrooms.

Year 7 & 8 Assessments

The Year 7 and 8 examination period will start on **Monday 1st June 2026** until **Friday, 5th June 2026**. Pupils will have examinations in Mathematics, English, French, Science, Humanities and Welsh. Practical subjects such as IT, Music, Drama, Art, Technology will not complete an end of year assessment. Class teachers will provide more information on the structure and/or content of examinations and what to revise.

We would encourage pupils to prepare sensibly for these assessments by revising classwork, completing homework tasks, and maintaining good attendance. The assessments are intended to support learning and provide valuable information for both school and home.

Examinations will take place in classrooms. Pupils will need full equipment for this examination week; pen, pencil, ruler, rubber, sharpener, calculator, compass, protractor.

Year 9 Assessments

The Year 9 examination period will start on **Wednesday 17th June 2026** until **Friday 19th June 2026**. These examinations will take place in the **Sports Hall** or Gym for pupils with access arrangements. The seating will mirror that of a GCSE examination.

Pupils will have examinations in Mathematics, English, Science, Humanities and Welsh. Practical subjects such as IT, Music, Drama, Art, Technology will not complete an end of year assessment. Class teachers will provide more information on the structure and/or content of examinations and what to revise.

	Lesson 1 (8.50am)	Lesson 3 (11.15am)
Wednesday 17 th June 2026	Mathematics	Welsh
Thursday 18 th June 2026	English	
Friday 19 th June 2026	Science	Humanities



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The Tiger who came for tea



Nursery have been sharing the story of "The Tiger that came to Tea". We have been making jam sandwiches for the tiger, writing instructions for how to make sandwiches, making tiger masks and chasing tiger tails in P.E.



We finished the week by wearing orange- These children are the future- The future is bright, the future is orange!



Year 6 letters of guidance

Inspired by their reading of R.J. Palacio's *Wonder*, Year 6 have been exploring how small actions promote inclusivity and personal wellbeing. To support our Year 3 pupils transitioning into the Lower Advance in September, Year 6 drafted personal letters offering practical guidance on how to succeed through acts of kindness, inclusion, and self-care. This week, they visited Year 3 to read their letters aloud, fostering wonderful cross-phase connections and easing transition anxieties. We are incredibly proud of the empathy and leadership our Year 6 pupils demonstrated in welcoming our younger learners to the next stage of their education.





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Safeguarding spotlight

YAW SPOTLIGHT ON SAFEGUARDING

TOPIC OF THE WEEK

WATER SAFETY AT THE RIVER

STAYING SAFE IN OPEN WATER

OPEN CONVERSATIONS

As we continue to enjoy the beautiful sunshine, please ensure you discuss this important topic with your child/children.

THE FACTS

An average of 346 UK and Irish Citizens lose their life to accidental drowning EVERY YEAR and many more have non-fatal experiences, sometimes suffering life-changing injuries.

49% of UK accidental drownings occur between May and August. There is also a heightened risk of drowning when air temperatures are higher.

THE DANGERS OF OPEN WATER

- It is very cold
- The shock of cold water can make swimming difficult and increase the difficulty in getting out of the water
- There may be hidden currents
- It can be difficult to get out (steep slimy banks)
- It can be deep
- There may be hidden rubbish e.g. shopping trolleys, broken glass
- There are no lifeguards
- The water may be polluted and could make you ill

Water Safety at the River

RIVER Water Safety Advice

- STAY** at designated takes
- STAY** back from the edge as that you don't fall in
- REMEMBER** that lakes and rivers remain cold all year round
- ALWAYS** wear a lifejacket for activities on or around the water

WORDSEARCH

Can you find all these words in the grid?

RIVER	FREEZING	MUDDY
CANAL	REDS	SIGNS
FISHING	CURRENT	TREES
BANKS	DUCKS	WATER
DIRTY	BOAT	FLOWERS
QUARRY	BRIDGE	SAFETY

QUIZ

1. What number should you call if someone needs help?
2. What should you throw to help someone in trouble - a rubber duck, a life ring, your teacher or a brick?
3. What should you wear if you can't swim?
4. Why should you stay back from the water's edge?
5. You should never jump in to save someone in trouble, true or false?

STAY SAFE

Summer WATER SAFETY

To enjoy the water safely and make the right call.

S - STAY SAFE
A - ALWAYS WEAR A LIFEJACKET
F - FOLLOW THE RULES
E - ENJOY THE WATER SAFELY

IN AN EMERGENCY - CALL 999

IF YOU CAN THINK OF ANY MORE CALL TO HELP

STAYING SAFE ON THE BEACH.. more tips





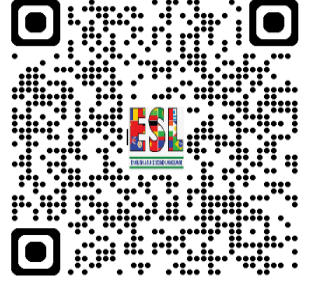
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ESL

<https://forms.gle/SEwQPTQo6LibH7Qz8>



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

- **Are you interested in joining our friendly ESL classes to build speaking, reading, and writing skills. Support your child's learning. Interested? Scan the QR code for details.**
- გაინტერესებთ ჩვენს მეგობრულ ESL კლასებში ჩართვა, საუბრის, კითხვისა და წერითი უნარების გასაუმჯობესებლად? დაუჭირეთ მხარი თქვენს ბავშვს. დადასკანერეთ QR კოდი დეტალებისთვის.
- الودية لدينا لتطوير مهارات التحدث والقراءة والكتابة؟ ادمع تعلم ESL هل ترغب في الانضمام إلى صفوف للمزيد من التفاصيل QR طفلك. امسح رمز
- 您是否有兴趣加入我们友好的ESL课程，提高口语、阅读和写作能力？支持您孩子的学习。扫描二维码了解详情。
- 你有興趣參加我們友善的ESL課程，提升說話、閱讀同寫作能力嗎？支持你孩子嘅學習。掃描QR碼了解詳情。
- Czy chcesz dołączyć do naszych przyjaznych zajęć ESL, aby rozwijać umiejętności mówienia, czytania i pisania? Wspieraj naukę swojego dziecka. Zeskanuj kod QR, aby uzyskać szczegóły.
- کلاسز میں شامل ہونا چاہتے ہیں تاکہ بولنے، پڑھنے اور لکھنے کی مہارتیں بہتر کر ESL کیا آپ ہمارے دوستانہ - کوڈ اسکین کریں QR سکین؟ اپنے بچے کی تعلیم کی حمایت کریں۔ مزید تفصیلات کے لیے
- 英語（ESL）クラスに参加して、話す・読む・書く力を伸ばしてみませんか？お子さまの学習をサポートしましょう。詳しくはQRコードをスキャンしてください。
- Adakah anda berminat menyertai kelas ESL kami yang mesra untuk meningkatkan kemahiran bertutur, membaca dan menulis? Sokong pembelajaran anak anda. Imbas kod QR untuk maklumat lanjut.
- ඔබට කතා කිරීම, කියවීම සහ ලිවීමේ හැකියාව වර්ධනය කරගැනීමට අපගේ මිත්‍රශීලී ESL පන්තිවලට එක්වීමට කැමතිද? ඔබගේ දරුවාගේ ඉගෙනීම සඳහා සහාය වන්න. වැඩි විස්තර සඳහා QR කේතය පරිලෝකනය කරන්න.





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ESL

<https://forms.gle/SEwQPTQo6LibH7Qz8>



- Ma hûn dixwazin beşdarî dersên me yê dostane yê ESL bibin da ku hunerên axaftin, xwendin û nivîsandin xwe pêşve bibin? Fêrbûna zarokê xwe piştgirî bikin. Ji bo agahiyan QR kodê skan bikin.
- ټولګیو کې ګډون وکړئ ترڅو د خبرو، لوستلو او لیکلو مهارتونه ښه ESL ایا تاسو غواړئ زموږ په دوستانه ګډون کې ګډون وکړئ. د خپل ماشوم زده کړه ملاتړ کړئ. د نورو معلوماتو لپاره.
- ما برای تقویت مهارت‌های صحبت کردن، خواندن و ESL آیا شما علاقه‌مند به شرکت در کلاس‌های دوستانه را اسکن کنید QR نوشتن هستید؟ از یادگیری فرزندان حمایت کنید. برای اطلاعات بیشتر کد را اسکن کنید.
- Ma doonaysaa inaad ku biirto fasalladeena ESL ee saaxiibtinimo leh si aad u horumariso xirfadaha hadalka, akhriska iyo qorista? Taageer waxbarashada ilmahaaga. Sawir koodhka QR si aad u hesho faahfaahin.
- ټولګیو کې ګډون وکړئ ترڅو د خبرو، لوستلو او لیکلو مهارتونه ښه ESL ایا تاسو غواړئ زموږ په دوستانه ګډون کې ګډون وکړئ. د خپل ماشوم زده کړه ملاتړ کړئ. د نورو معلوماتو لپاره.
- ¿É o nifèqé láti darapò mò àwọn kiláàsì ESL wa tí ó ní ọ̀rẹ̀ láti mú kí oḡbón sòrò, kíkà àti kòwé dára? Ẹ atilẹyin èkọ ọmọ rẹ. Ẹ skani kóòdù QR fún àlàyẹ.
- Bạn có muốn tham gia các lớp ESL thân thiện của chúng tôi để phát triển kỹ năng nói, đọc và viết không? Hỗ trợ việc học của con bạn. Quét mã QR để biết thêm chi tiết.
- Interesado ka bang sumali sa aming magiliw na ESL classes upang mapabuti ang kasanayan sa pagsasalita, pagbasa at pagsusulat? Suportahan ang pag-aaral ng iyong anak. I-scan ang QR code para sa detalye.
- Apakah Anda tertarik untuk bergabung dengan kelas ESL kami yang ramah untuk meningkatkan keterampilan berbicara, membaca, dan menulis? Dukung pembelajaran anak Anda. Pindai kode QR untuk detail.
- நீங்கள் பேசுதல், வாசித்தல் மற்றும் எழுதுதல் திறன்களை மேம்படுத்த எங்கள் நட்பான ESL வகுப்புகளில் சேர விரும்புகிறீர்களா? உங்கள் குழந்தையின் கற்றலை ஆதரிக்கவும். விவரங்களுக்கு QR குறியீட்டை ஸ்கேன் செய்யவும்.
- क्या आप बोलने, पढ़ने और लिखने के कौशल विकसित करने के लिए हमारी मित्रवत ESL कक्षाओं में शामिल होना चाहते हैं? अपने बच्चे की पढ़ाई का समर्थन करें। अधिक जानकारी के लिए QR कोड स्कैन करें।
- क्या आप बोलने, पढ़ने और लिखने के कौशल विकसित करने के लिए हमारी मित्रवत ESL कक्षाओं में शामिल होना चाहते हैं? अपने बच्चे की पढ़ाई का समर्थन करें। अधिक जानकारी के लिए QR कोड स्कैन करें।





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Community Corner

Pontypridd Theatre company brought Panto to the pupils of Afon Wen last December with great success.....they are now bringing the SOUTH WALES PREMIER of Frozen the West End Musical in June at Tylorstown Welfare Hall. Scan the QR Code on the poster to book and A discount of 10% using PTC10 has been applied for Afon Wen.

FREE TASTER SESSIONS!

COME & TRY PONTYPRIDD UNITED

U6s
(YEAR 1 - SEP 26)

U7s
(YEAR 2 - SEP 26)

U8s
(YEAR 3 - SEP 26)

JOIN US FOR A FUN, FRIENDLY SESSION TO MEET OUR COACHES, MAKE NEW FRIENDS & EXPERIENCE THE **PONTY UNITED FAMILY!**

NO COMMITMENT. JUST FOOTBALL & FUN!

EVERY THURSDAY
5PM - 6PM
USW SPORTS PARK

SCAN TO BOOK YOUR PLACE!

PONTYPRIDD UNITED DRAGONS

THIS ANIMATED PRODUCTION IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL (ATI). ALL AUTHORISED PERFORMANCE MATERIALS ARE ALSO SUPPLIED BY ATI WWW.ATISHOWS.CO.UK

PONTYPRIDD THEATRE COMPANY'S
PRODUCTION OF
THE SOUTH WALES PREMIERE

DISNEY'S
BOOK BY JENNIFER LEE
FROZEN
THE WEST END MUSICAL

**TICKETS: ADULTS: £12
CHILD UNDER 10 & CONCESSIONS 65+: £10
FAMILY TICKET: £38
(2 ADULTS & 2 CHILDREN UNDER 10 OR 1 ADULT & 3 CHILDREN UNDER 10)**

**JUNE 2026
FRIDAY 19TH 7PM
SATURDAY 20TH:
12PM & 4PM**

TYLORSTOWN WELFARE HALL
Purchase tickets - www.ticketsource.co.uk
Tylorstown Box Office
Group bookings email drk_wltrs@yahoo.co.uk

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY KRISTEN ANDERSON-LOPEZ & ROBERT LOPEZ
WRITTEN BY JENNIFER LEE & DIRECTED BY CHRIS BUCK & JENNIFER LEE
ORIGINALLY DIRECTED ON BROADWAY BY MICHAEL GRANDAGE
ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON BROADWAY BY DISNEY THEATRICAL PRODUCTIONS

Funded by UK Government, Wedi ei ariannu gan Llywodraeth y DU

interlink





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Community Corner

May Half Term with Pontypridd Town Council

Day	What?	Where?	When?	Who?
Wed 27th May	Family Fun Day	Graig Community Centre CF37 1NT	09:30 - 14:00	Fun for all the family!
Wed 27th May	Children's Arts and Crafts	Pontypridd Museum CF37 4PE	12:30 - 14:30	
Sun 31st May	Wellbeing Day	Meadow Street Community Gardens CF37 1UD	11:00 - 14:00	

All events are free and no need to book!

For further information contact 01443 490740 or info@pontypriddtowncouncil.gov.uk

Graig Family Fun Day

The Graig Community Centre
CF37 1NT /// robot.bucks.rarely

No need to book, just come along!

- Food from our community cafe
- Free play - games and toys
- Crafts for kids and adults
- Help us with the garden
- Pot up seeds to take home

Wednesday 27/05/2026
9:30AM - 2PM

01443 490740 | info@pontypriddtowncouncil.gov.uk

Wellbeing Day

Join your local community for a fun day of free activities for all ages!

Sunday 31st May
11am - 2pm
Meadow Street Community Garden And Woodland

What to expect
Have a go at activities that support health and wellbeing - details coming soon!
Save the date!

World Otter Day!

CELF A CHREFFT CHILDREN'S PLANT ARTS & CRAFTS

Am ddim Free event
12.30 - 14.30

Amgueddfa Pontypridd Pontypridd Museum

Dim angen archebu! Dydd Mercher 27.05.2026 Wednesday No booking necessary!

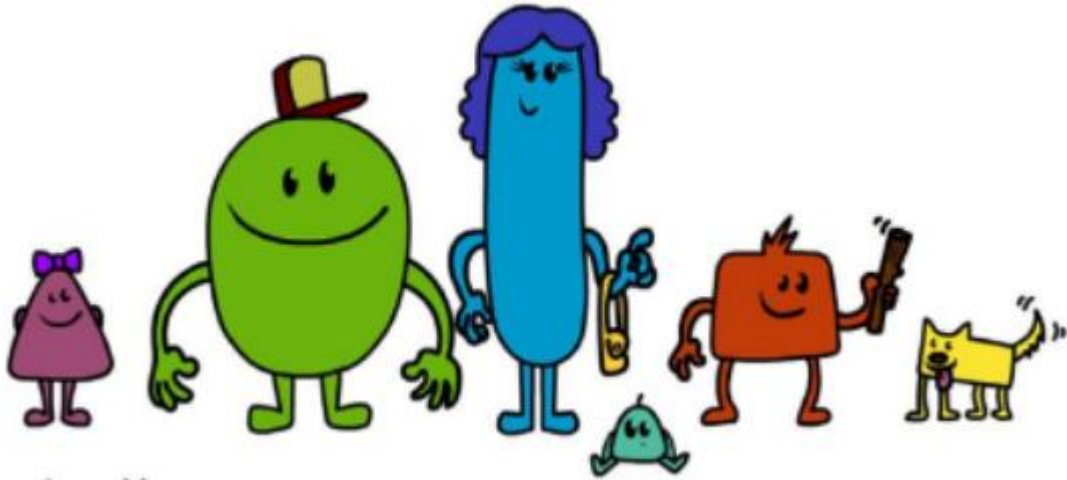


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Newsletter 22.05.26

Article 5: Governments should help parents to help you to know about and use children's rights as you grow up.

Community Corner



We continue to host our monthly drop-in session for parents and carers who may be interested in support from Rhondda Cynon Taf's Resilient Families Service.

The sessions will take place on the second Thursday of every month, from 9:15am to 11:30am, in our Community Hub. The next drop-in session is this **Thursday, 11th June**.

The Resilient Families Service offers short-term, practical support to families across RCT. The service focuses on building family resilience and can support with a range of issues such as:

- establishing routines
- family relationships
- education and attendance
- housing or financial worries
- speech, language and communication needs
- emotional wellbeing

The drop-in sessions will be a relaxed and informal opportunity to find out more about the service, ask questions, and speak directly with a member of the team about any support that may be helpful for your family. There is no referral needed to attend.

Refreshments will be available, so please feel free to pop in at any point during the session.

We look forward to welcoming you.

